

STORY VI.

*The fatal Effects of a mistaken Fondness.*

- "Children like tender Oziers take the Bow,
 "And as they first are fashioned, always grow;
 "For what we learn in Youth, to that alone
 "In age we are by second nature prone."

THAT the severe exertion of
 parental authority destroys all
 filial

filial love and confidence, and implants cunning and dissimulation, is an undoubted truth. The other extreme of unlimited indulgence is productive of effects, equally fatal to the disposition and happiness of the child.

Mrs. Belford had been the mother of seven children, but none of them survived the first year except William, of whom she became so immoderately fond, that she never gave him the least contradiction. It was an unpardonable offence in a servant to refuse him any thing. He was suffered to tease and hurt not only animals, but every child who came to play with him. They were to have no inclinations contrary to his, but to be entirely subservient to his imperious will and pleasure. Observing the power his tears gave him over the whole family, &c. he was incessantly